

CAROLINAS CROSS CONNECTION

February 2026



Vol 81 Issue 1

70th Biennial LWML Carolinas District Convention

May 1-2, 2026

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church,
6175 St. Peter's Church Road,
Conover, NC 28613**

I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence
comes my help? My help comes from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 121:1-2

Upcoming Events

February 21, 2026
Heritage Festival

April 18, 2026
Central Zone Rally

May 1-2, 2026
LWML Carolinas
District Convention

August 14-16, 2026
LWML Carolinas
District Retreat -
Camp Linn Haven

Guest Speaker: Teirsa Lane, Manager Camp Linn Haven

Teirsa has been the Manager at Camp Linn Haven for over 20 years. She will speak about the Camp restoration after the hurricane. Camp Linn Haven is a Christian summer camp owned by Camp Linn Haven, Inc., and affiliated with the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Established in 1940, Camp Linn Haven is a non-profit organization situated on 52 acres of the Blue Ridge mountains.

Deborah Moore & Jan Sigmon, Convention Managers





Carolinas District **Convention** **Shirts 2026**



Carolina's District Convention online store for the convention t-shirts is open. These shirts are the Bella Canvas Softstyle.

Use the link below to order.

*If you are having trouble, feel free to call 828.322.2262
Premier Screen Printing.*

<https://carolinasdistrictconventionshirts.itemorder.com/>



2026 Convention **Gifts from the Heart will be:**

Camp Linn Haven (monetary)
or
Supplies for Bookbags (monetary)

Write checks to LWML Carolinas District
and earmark for Camp or Supplies.



Shirley Marquardt, Editor CCC
email:

carolinasdist.ccceditor@gmail.com

May Newsletter

Deadline: May 15, 2026

Delivery Method: Mail & Email

Need information from: President,
Vice-Presidents, Zones & Societies,
Camp Linn Haven Retreat,
2026 Convention pictures

WEBPAGE

www.lwmlcarolinas.org

Please contact Lauren Olsen,
Web Servant, email:
deaclaurenolsen@gmail.com

If you have articles you would like on
your zone page.

The site offers each Zone a page to
display their Zone information
and pictures.



**2nd Annual Heritage Festival
(Sponsored by LWML Heart to Heart Sisters)**

February 21, 2026

Ebenezer Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
310 S Tremont Dr, Greensboro, NC 27403

Registration will begin at 9:30a.m.

There is no cost.

Program 10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.

On this special day, we invite you to join us in celebration of our various heritage backgrounds. Janis McDaniels will be sharing what she learned during her Heart to Heart Seminar at the 2025 National Convention in Omaha. There will also be a sharing time for anyone willing to share their heritage background. For lunch, we ask that each attendee bring a dish or dessert from a country that's representative of their heritage or bring a family favorite. If you don't know your heritage look up your last name or maiden name on Google. Feel free to dress in an outfit that represents your heritage, but it's not required! Come join us for food, fellowship and information as to how our heritage affects LWML! We hope to see you on Sat. - Feb. 21st for our Heritage Festival! Please share this event with others to invite them too.

Denise Johnson, U-P Special Focus Ministry

President's Message

Greetings! The last week of January and first week of February has been cold, snowy and icy, at least here in the foothills of North Carolina. How wonderful it is to know that we have God's love to warm our heart. He looks after us in good weather and bad weather.

The 70th Carolinas District Convention is fast approaching, have you registered for the convention? Do you know who is going to represent your group as the voting delegate at the convention? Please let us know on your convention registration form if you are a voting delegate. Zone President should have the Convention Delegate form. Please review the CCC and the Carolinas District website: LWMLCarolinas.org for information and forms.

As women in mission, we enjoy doing mission projects and raising funds for mission groups. I want to make you aware that LWML does NOT support Lutheran World Relief any more. Lutheran World Relief does not evangelize any more. Although we want to care for people physical needs, we want to be sure that we also care for their spiritual needs. We want to share the love of Jesus with everyone we come in contact with. There are numerous worthy organizations but not everyone is willing to share the gospel of Jesus, even though they may be affiliated with a religious group. Please check organizations websites for what their mission, vision and values are. If you have questions talk with your Pastor, or a Pastoral counselor or me.

We Need Leaders!

Leaders are needed in the local groups, the zones, the district, and at the national level. God has given each of us talents, please don't be afraid to use them and share them with others. Don't worry, we all make mistakes. Mistakes show that we are human and makes us stronger.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 70th Carolinas District Convention, May 1& 2 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Conover, North Carolina.

Your Servant in Christ,

Paula R Daniels

Carolinas District President

828-310-1928

CarolinasDistrictPresident@gmail.com



*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Mission of the Quarter

Involved in Mission Outreach in 2026?

If you have a mission opportunity that takes place in the Carolinas District (NC & SC) that you would like to apply for a Mission of the Quarter, please contact Margaret White, Mission of the Quarter Chairman, at mwhite15@embarqmail.com or call 252-430-4353 for more information. You can find the MOQ form on our Carolinas District website: www.lwmlcarolinas.org.

We continue to support missions with our MOQ money. The 1st Qtr MOQ 2025, \$1,240.26 went to the Backpack Ministry at Camp Linn Haven. The 2nd Qtr MOQ 2025, \$785.00 went to Family Care Center of Catawba Valley, Inc. The 3rd Qtr MOQ 2025, \$465.00 went to the Life in Christ Lutheran Ministry, previously called Gastonia Chosen Mission, a church plant in the Gastonia area. The 4th Qtr MOQ 2025, \$842.00 went to Shepherd's Heart Ministry in Claremont, NC.

Please remember the new deadline for MOQ money to be sent into the financial secretary...15 Days after the end of the quarter!

1st Mission of the Qtr 2026 (Jan/Feb/March)—HOPE Missions Of The Upstate, Anderson, SC

HOPE Missions Of The Upstate provides hope and healing to their community by meeting basic needs while looking for specific opportunities to improve individual circumstances. They are an approved 501 (c) (3) non-profit charity. They seek to feed the hungry, provide clothing, shelter, empower and equip by showing each one the love of Christ. They rely on the support of numerous churches and agencies that partner with HOPE Missions. Services include meals, life skills classes, hygiene products, Goodwill Mission Mobile, health services, prescriptions, Warming Center, etc.

We continue to pray for our MOQ projects. Thank you for supporting these mission activities as we seek to be Jesus' hands and feet to those in need of His love and care!

Margaret White, Mission of Quarter Chairman

Structure Committee

Greetings from the Carolinas District Structure Committee. The Carolinas District Structure Committee will not have any changes to the Bylaws for this year.

We will continue to follow our Bylaws dated September 21, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Sophia Wilkerson, Structure Chair

Catawba Zone

St. John's LWML in Conover, NC got together and baked cookies the Saturday before Thanksgiving and then sold them on Sunday. The cookie sale was a huge success and brought in money to fund their mission projects. In December, the ladies participated in a bring your favorite food Christmas party. They enjoyed devotions, fellowship during the meal and playing games afterwards.

Trinity Hmong had an eggroll sale in December and it was a huge success as they sold all the egg rolls. They enjoyed fellowship with each other as they made and sold the egg rolls.

Shirley Rockett, Catawba Zone President

Central Zone

The **Central Zone 2026 Spring Zone Rally** will be held
Sat. April. 18 from 9am - 2pm
Redeemer Lutheran Church in Burlington.

There will be a Continental Breakfast & Lunch for attendees. The theme for the day will be
"Using the Psalms for Time with God".

The cost per person will be \$10. The Gifts from the Heart will be either monetary donations or gift cards for the Seminary Food Banks split between Fort Wayne and St. Louis.

We invite all Lutheran Women in Mission to join us for the day.

Mary Ann Boone, Central Zone President

Metrolina Zone

Prince of Peace, Charlotte feeds the homeless PB&J Project.

Ascension, Charlotte: Advent project

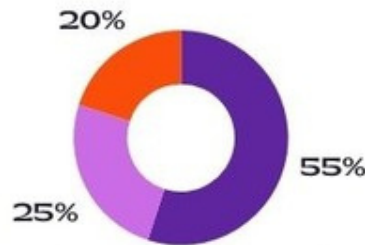
Prince of Peace Christmas luncheon. The women of Prince of Peace hosted their annual Christmas luncheon. The theme of the luncheon was Joy. with Society President, Gwen Williams as the speaker. After the luncheon some of the ladies packed food bags for the homeless and included the Prayer Plaques they made at their October meeting.



Metrolina Zone: St. Emily Circle – Ascension Lutheran

Our Circle met on Monday, November 17th at the church. Leaning into the coming of Advent, we gathered around the LWML developed Bible Study titled Women in Christ's Genealogy. It tested our Old Testament memories and resulted in lively discussion around just how amazing God's story is and who he can and will use to accomplish His plans – including us!

We included a service project of crafting Christmas cards with encouraging messages of Hope in Christ to be included in the distributions to our Food Pantry guests. Sharing the message with what we have, where we are, just like the women in God's amazing story!



2024-2026 Mite Box

Goal \$80,000

Mission Grants

\$44,000 (55%)

National LWML

\$20,000 (25%)

LWML Carolinas

District Operating

\$16,000 (20%)

Progress

Amount Received

\$59,179

Total Needed

\$20,821



Grant Title	Amount Paid	Balance
Computers for Bible	3000	
CTS Food Co-op	5000	
Hmong	5000	
Most Ministries	5000	
Haiti/Trinity Hope	3000	
POBLO		4400
Church Worker Student	5000	5000
CLH Disability		2500
CLH Scholarship		1800

As of December 31, 2025 we have reached approximately 74% of our goal for the biennium.

Nancy Nolley
V-P Mission Grants

For more grant details
check out lwmlcarolinas.org 8

Carolinas District LWML Nominations for 2026

2026 Carolinas District LWML Board of Directors Office Nominations Below are the names and brief service descriptions of those willing to serve in the offices of the Board of Directors for 2026-2030, except for the Nominating Committee, who will serve from 2026-2028. The election for the BOD offices will occur May 2nd at the Carolinas District Convention. Voting delegates should review the information provided to make their voting choices at the Convention.

President (4 year term)

Candidate #1 -

Mary Ann Boone

6606 Coltrane Mill Rd., Greensboro, NC 27406

Mobile Phone: 336-451-4291 Email: lwmlmaboone2022@gmail.com

Church: Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Greensboro, NC Central Zone

Offices Held:

Local: Member of Ebenezer LWML, Lead LWML Bible Study

Zone: President,

District: delegate for district convention, nominating committee, recording secretary

Other activities: Ebenezer LWML Leadership, Led Operation Christmas Child, Fort Wayne food/clothing Co-Op and other local service projects. Attended National LWML Convention as delegate in 2023 & 2025, Attended Joy Events, Attend District Conventions (co-chair in 2024), Attended District Retreats (hosted in 2023)

Vice-President of Christian Life (4 year term)

Candidate #1 -

Kecia Roseman

392 Old Homestead LN, Hayesville, NC 28904

Mobile Phone: 828-455-3382 Email: kwr1193@gmail.com

Church: Resurrection Lutheran Church, Franklin, NC Western Zone

Offices Held:

Local: Delegate for District convention -various

Zone:

District: Treasurer (2 x)

Other Activities: Active LWML member, volunteer At National Convention, Charlotte, NC, attended Zone Rallies, District Conventions, Joy Events, National Conventions

Vice-President of Mission Outreach (4 year term)

Candidate # 1-

Lauren Olsen

3313 Stone Bend Dr., Winterville, NC

Mobile Phone: 815-353-9414 email: deaclaurenolsen@gmail.com

Church: Faith Lutheran, Kingston, NC Eastern Zone

Offices Held:

Zone: President

District: Nominating Committee, VP Communications, Web Servant

Other Activities: I am a Deaconess Emeritus and served 36 years before my retirement.

Nominating Committee (2 year term) 3 nominated to serve

Candidate #1 -

Paula Daniels

363 Round Top Mt. Rd., Taylorsville, NC

Mobile Phone: 828-310-1928 email: pdaniels@danielswc.com

Church: Salem Lutheran Church, Taylorsville, NC Foothills Zone

Offices Held:

Local: Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President

Zone: Vice President (once), President (3x)

District: Nominating Committee (2x), Vice President of Human Care, President

Other Activities: Attended National LWML Conventions, Joy Events, District

Retreats, sang in National Convention Choirs, church choir, work fulltime, help look after grandkids and spoil them.

Candidate #2 -

Nancy Nolley

4613 Carolando Dr, Concord, NC

Mobile Phone: 704-222-6956 email: ntere312@yahoo.com

Church: Prince of Peace, Charlotte, NC Metrolina Zone

Offices Held:

Local: Treasurer, President

Nominating Committee Continued

Zone: President, Vice President

District: VP of Christian Life, VP of Mission Outreach

Other Activities: BOD-Southeastern District, Roof Above volunteer,

Congregation: Christian Education, Elder, Building and Grounds Committee member

Candidate #3 -

Sarah Graham

131 Cottonwood Dr. Summerville, SC

Mobile Phone: 843-329-3933 email: graham.sarah95@gmail.com

Church: Grace Lutheran Church, Summerville, SC Southern Zone

Offices Held:

Local: member of LWML Group

District: YWR 2025

National: Attended 2025 convention as YWR

Other Activities: Sarah is 29 and completed her Associate in Applied Science, Occupational Therapy Assistant shortly after graduating from high school. Being young, and looking even younger, it has been a challenge to be taken seriously as a professional throughout her schooling and career. Sarah is a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) and is currently working a travel contract.

Candidate #4 -

Adlois Shoffner

3225 Edenwood Dr. Greensboro, NC

Phone: 336-324-1302

Church: Grace Lutheran Church, Greensboro, NC Central Zone

Offices Held:

Local- LWML Member

Other Activities: Vice President of Church Council, VBS Teacher, Hospitality Committee Member.

Candidate #5 -

Amelia Luecke

Mobile: 319-850-7499 email: amelia@lucecke.net Metrolina Zone

Offices Held:

Local- LWML member

Other Activities: 2023 YWR, attended District Convention, District Retreats, and 2 National Conventions.

Pastoral Counselor

Candidate #1 -

Rev. Eric Hauss

Assistant Pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Conover, NC

MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS

2026-2028

A PROPOSED TOTAL GRANT GOAL is recommended by the LWML Carolinas Board of Directors for vote by the delegates of the convention.

The amount selected by the delegates is designated as follows:

- 25% TO LWML (National)
- 55% TO CAROLINAS DISTRICT GRANTS
- 20% TO ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS (Carolinas District)

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Ongoing Mission Projects

Professional Church Work Student Assistance- Southeastern District Carolinas District LWML	\$7,500
Camp Linn Haven Scholarship Fund Carolinas District LWML	\$3,600
Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Carolinas District LWML	\$3,500

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Mission Outreach

Proposed Grants for the 2026-2028 Year

The final projects will be selected and prioritized by the convention voting body. They are presented in no particular order.

PROPOSED MISSION GRANTS:

All Saints Classical Academy-\$5000

All Saints Lutheran, Indian Land SC

Castillo Fuerte Mercy House-\$5,000

Lutheran Mission of Peru- submitted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ridgeway, NC

Christ-Centered Counseling-\$5,000

Concordia Counseling- Deaconess Michelle Downey

CTSFW Food Co-op-\$5,000

Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN

Forged by Fire Ministries-\$5,000

Mandeville, LA, Lauren Olsen

Gospel Access for Aging Adults-\$5,000

Worship Anew, Walkerton IN

Mobilize Gen Z within the Southeastern District- \$5,000

Capital LLL District President- Yvette Moy

Primary Lutheran School-Amudat- Life for Uganda-\$5,000

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary, NC, Carol Bostick

Shepherd's Heart Ministry's Extending our Reach Grant-\$5,000

Bethel Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC, Rev. Eric Hollar

All Saints Classical Academy-Indian Island, SC \$5,000

All Saints Lutheran Church has been doing a successful pilot program for two years in preparation for this school year's launch and is expanding its ministry by starting a small hybrid classical school, which can leverage the best of the home and school environment. The grant request will assist in funding curriculum and classroom expenses. We believe now is the time to develop new schools to strengthen the next generation of Christian leaders, parents, and citizens who are well-rounded in their education and are steeped in virtue, wisdom, in their whole person, mind, body, and soul.

Castillo Fuerte Mercy House \$5,000

Children and families served by Castillo Fuerte Mercy House are coming to faith in response to the Word, with whole families brought to the knowledge of Christ. The Castillo Fuerte Mercy House is an outreach and ministry of the Lutheran Church in Peru. The ministry fills a need in the community to care for your children, provide them with a healthy meal and teach them about the love of the Lord for all people.

Christ-Centered Counseling- Concordia Counseling Center \$5,000

An outreach ministry of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod: Our mission is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ by providing Biblically sound, clinically effective, and financially affordable counseling services. Our vision is to make Christ-centered counseling services available to everyone.

CTSFW Food CO-OP- Fort Wayne University, Fort Wayne, IN \$5,000

Christ in His Holy Word commands us to go and teach all nations about Him and what He has done for us (Matthew 28:19). The Food and Clothing Co-op of CTSFW supplies 80% to 90% of the grocery needs for the seminary students and their families at no additional cost. The seminar seeks to provide newer and better-equipped freezers to store and display frozen items for the benefit of seminary students and their families.

Forged by Fire Ministries - Mandeville, LA \$5,000

Sharing Our Savior, One Meal at a Time seeks to bring hope and comfort to communities recovering from natural disasters. Through the simple gift of a hot meal, Forged by Fire Services provides nourishment for the body while opening doors to share the message of Christ's love. This project combines practical relief with spiritual encouragement, reminding survivors that they are not forgotten. With support, we will prepare and serve meals in disaster-affected areas, creating opportunities for prayer, conversation, and witness. Each meal becomes a ministry moment, offering strength, compassion, and the hope found only in Jesus.

Gospel Access for Aging Adults \$5,000

Our call is to "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation." Mark 16:15 (ESV), and that includes aging adults who are desperately seeking the Gospel due to loneliness, isolation, and physical ailments. Worship Anew is uniquely equipped to create and provide resources for aging adults to help them live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.

Mobilize GenZ \$5,000

Thousands of lapsed Christians and those of non-Christian faith are seeking ways to heal, grow, and express themselves in an increasingly decaying culture. LWML Despite cultural background and heart language and heritage GenZ are suffering in our secular society. Planting Gospel seeds (identity and purpose in Christ) by using music through a rap concert. The LWML Carolinas District grant will help cover a portion of the cost of the upcoming Flame event.

Primary Lutheran School- Amudat \$5,000

In the Amudat region of Uganda, a Lutheran Church exists and is supported by Ugandan Lutheran Pastors. Because education is a great need, the church wants to build a primary school for their local children. The Amudat region has limited resources; Ugandan materials and labor must be imported. The members of the church have agreed to care for the workmen and provide some of the building materials. The estimated cost is \$80,000, of which \$25,000 has been raised.

Shepherd's Heart Ministry's Extending our Reach \$5,000

As disasters in the Carolinas continue to increase in frequency and intensity, the need for trained, properly equipped Christian volunteers grows. This grant would significantly strengthen our ability to deploy teams quickly, safely, and effectively. Funds will be used to purchase essential equipment and gear, including deployment supplies, all of which directly support our mission to share the love of Jesus Christ in the aftermath of storms.



70th Biennial Carolinas District LWML Convention

May 1-2, 2026

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 6175 St. Peter's Church Road, Conover, NC 28613

*I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence comes my help?
My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2*

Registration Form

Please type or clearly print your information.

BADGE NAME (Last) _____ (First) _____

Mailing Address: City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Society: _____ Zone: _____

REGISTRATION CATEGORY: (Check ALL that apply.)

____ A. District Board Member (voting)

____ C. Past District President (voting)

____ E. Young Woman Representative

____ G. Exhibitor

____ First Time to a District Convention

____ B. District Board Member (non-voting)

____ D. Society Delegate (voting)

____ F. Clergy

____ H. General/Guest

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES:

\$60 – Early Registration – Begins February 1, 2026

\$65 – Regular Registration – March & April 2026

\$70 – Late Registration – May 1, 2026

Number of Registrants: _____ Total Payment Submitted: _____

Mail your registration form AND payment to - Thea Deal, 151 Robert Deal Dr, Taylorsville, NC 28681

Questions - phone: 828-234-4675 or e-mail thea.deal@yahoo.com

Make checks payable to LWML Carolinas District and earmark it as LWML Convention.

Check-in for the District Convention will begin at St. Peter's Lutheran Church at 4pm on May 1st.

Please check the following as it may apply to your needs:

____ Need Large Print Materials

____ Food Allergies (Please list them here.) _____

____ Mobility concerns that require assistance/adaptation? List details of need.

Hotel Information

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 104 10th ST NW, Conover, NC 28613 Phone (828)-465-7070

Cost 139.00 plus tax for (2) queen bedroom

You can book your room by calling the hotel directly at (828) 465-7070. Stay on the line or press 0. It will send you to the front desk. Ask for *LWML Carolinas District Group block*. Reservations must be made no later than April 16, 2026.

Gifts from the Heart will be for: Camp Linn Haven (monetary)

Supplies for Book bags (monetary)

Need to specify on your check memo which one you are giving to.

Please complete the *LWML CAROLINAS DISTRICT PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT* form on the lwmlcarolinas.org webpage